(c) Does not arise in view of reply to clause (b) above.

(d) About 1862 hectares (4,600 acres)

(e) This will be considered after the receipt of final report.

Selling of Eucalyptus fuel to M/s. Harihar Polyfibres Ltd.,

571 SRI M. ABDUL LATEEF (Kolar).—Will the Minister for Food and Forest be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is selling eucalyptus fuel to M/s. Harihar Polifibres Ltd. at Rs. 24 a tonne ;

(b) since how long the rate has not been revised ;

(c) the difference in value for the quantity supplied if it were to have been sold at prevailing market rates ;

(d) the special reasons for this enormous incentive ?

SRI G. RAME GOWDA (Minister for Food and Forest).—

(a) Yes.

(b) According to the terms of the agreement the rates of supply to this Company are as follows :

(a) Rs. 24/-per tonne of de-barked wood from 1-9-1971 to 31-8-1986
(b) Rs. 30/-per tonne from 1-9-1986 to 31-8-1996
(c) Rs. 36/ per tonne from 1-9-1996 onwards.

Government have inspite of this, increased the rate to Rs. 65/- per tonne for the quantity removed in excess of 1.5 lakh tonnes per year *vide* Government. Order issued on 21-4-1978.

(c) Eucalyptus, an industrial specie, is not sold in auction and hence its market rate cannot be aseessed correctly.

(d) To promote industrialisation of the State and to provide employment opportunities.

Papers laid on the Table

SRI R. S. PATIL (Minister for Excise and Labour).—Sir, On behalf of the Minister for Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, I beg to lay :

Notification No. LAW 85 LGR 77 dated 12th April, 1978 Determination of expenses for foreign tour of Smt. K. S. Nagaratnamma, Ex. Speaker, Legislative Assembly. under clause (b) sub-section (3) of Section 8 of the Karnataka Legislature Salaries Act, 1956.

I beg to lay ;

Notification No. HD 28 PES 77 dated 23rd May, 1978 The Karnataka Excise (Denatured spirit and Denatured spiritous (Preparations) (Amendment) Rules, 1978 under sub-section (4) of Section 71 of the Karnataka Excise Act, 1965.

MR. SPEAKER.—The Papers are laid.

Leave of Absence to Sri F. S. Patil grant of

MR. SPEAKER.—I have received a letter from Sri F. S. Patil, Member, Legislative Assembly, requesting for leave of absence for further period from 17th July, 1978 to 22nd July, 1978.

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to remain absent from 17th July, 1978 to 22nd July, 1978 ?

HON. MEMBERS.—Yes.

MR. SPEAKER.—Permission to remain absent is granted.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 312

re : demands of Hatti Gold Mines Workers and also relay hunger strike,

† SRI C. M. ARUMUGHUM (K.G.F.). —I wish to raise a matter under rule 315 regarding the Charter of demands of Hatti Gold Mines Workers and also the relay hunger strike since 23-6-1978.

The Workers of Hatti Gold Mines numbering about 3400 are on relay hunger strike from 23rd June, 1978. In Sympathy to their demands for wage revision, the President of Village Panchayat, the T.D.B. Members, Lawyers and ladies are participating in this relay hunger strike. The pay structure of the workers of the Hatti Gold Mines are like this :

There are 652 workers who are working in surface are getting Rs. 204 plus annual increment of Rs. 4/- and the Maximum comes to Rs. 230/- or so.

There are 144 workers who are underground workers are getting Rs. 216/- per month and an annual increment of Rs. 4/-. They reach the maximum of Rs. 240 after 6 years of service.